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other soaps. It makes woolens and linens as soft as velvet and white as snow, without weakening or shrinking the fibre. Less labor, hence more in favor. Such is

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ASK YOUR DEALER FOR LAUNDRY SHAPE

The Times' Daily Short Story.

THE PAYMASTER'S RIDE

(Original.)

This is a true story related to me by the L. other of the man principally concerned. Only the name is changed.

Many years ago, when California was inhabited largely by people of Spanish descent, John Nolan was an officer of a lumber company at Sacramento. It was one of his duties to go among the lumber camps of the company in a little two-seated wagon and pay off the men. One evening while riding from one camp to another Nolan saw the figure of a woman standing in the road ahead of him, evidently waiting for him to come up.

"Will you give me a lift, signor?" she said when he reached her.

"Certainly. Get up beside me, or, if you think it too crowded on the front seat, take the hind one."

"Thank you, signor," replied the woman. "I will take the seat that gives the most room." And she climbed in at the rear.

"Hi!" said Nolan to himself. "She has an eye to correct behavior." And he drove on. "It's a fine night," he remarked by way of opening a conversation. "I think the moon must be at the full."

"A fine night," repeated the woman without adding anything further. Nolan tried with several remarks to draw her into conversation, but, failing, relapsed into silence. The moonlight plain over which he was driving, the serene heavens through which the queen of night was slowly moving, the glittering stars, were far more attractive than a woman who would not talk. Nolan drove on, occupied with his own thoughts, and was gradually forgetting his companion, when, happening to turn his head aside, he caught a flash of moonlight reflected from some polished surface behind him.

Now, there was nothing in the light of the round disk in the heavens to stir any emotions within John Nolan except those of the most serene character. Why, then, should these few reflected rays, this monetary glitter, cause his heart to stand still and a cold shiver to run down his back? What passed through his mind was even quicker than the flash of moonlight. It was this: He was riding alone, with a large sum of the company's money in his possession. He was known far and wide as the company's paymaster, and this woman was sitting behind him ready to plunge a knife into him in order to obtain the money.

He was armed, but what use a weapon at his hip in plain sight of the woman behind him? At the first move of his hand to grasp it a foot of cold steel would be thrust between his ribs. There was but one chance for him, and that a remote one—he must appear to be without suspicion and invent some artifice to secure an advantage.

MONTANA'S DYNAMITERS.

They Make New Demands, and One Ultimatum Expires.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 29.—A special to the Dispatch from Helena, Mont., says that in addition to the threats which have been made against the Northern Pacific railroad by a gang of dynamiters, who demand \$50,000, Chief of Police Travis has received notification from what is believed to be the same gang that unless the two men arrested in connection with the first outrage at Livingston are released the city jail will be blown up.

Detectives are searching the country trying to locate the gang and the ton of dynamite stolen from a warehouse in this city a week ago. The last ultimatum to the railroad expires Oct. 4 and the one to Chief Travis has already ended. The railroad tracks are being carefully guarded against further outrages.

Shaw Goes to Chicago.

Washington, Sept. 29.—Secretary Shaw has left for Chicago. He will return the last of the week.

Turning partly sideways, he addressed a remark to her, keeping in that position as if to converse the more readily, but without in the least appearing to be aware of her purpose. As he turned, her arm that had been raised sank and her hand found concealment in the folds of her dress. One of Nolan's eyes was strained to watch her, while the other was cast ahead at a forest they would soon enter. He knew that in the struggle which was inevitable he would have an advantage on the open plain. Within the shadow of the wood there would be no ray of moonlight to reveal to him an overhanging dagger. He must devise before they reached the wood some expedient either to get rid of the woman or force her to show her hand.

"Get up, you lazy beast," he said to his horse. "At this rate we'll be out all night." And, striking at the animal with his whip, he contrived to drop it in the road.

"Whom?" He pretended to try to stop the horse at once, but took pains that he should leave some interval between them and the fallen whip.

"I've dropped my whip," he said to the woman. "Would you mind getting it for me?"

The woman hesitated a moment, then got down and went back for the whip. The moment she picked it up Nolan lashed the horse with the reins and started on. The woman, seeing that she had been tricked, ran for the wagon.

Then began a race which Nolan feared was one between life and death. His horse, which was merely a hack, broke into a lope, but made no great speed. The woman, on the contrary, ran swiftly and in a few minutes caught hold of the tailboard of the wagon. Nolan seized the weapon nearest at hand, the seat the woman had been sitting on, and began to belabor her over the head. But her head was hard, and she was persistent. While she ran she was making efforts to climb over the dashboard and get into the wagon. Finally in one of these attempts her feet left the ground, and she was poised on the tailboard.

Now, Nolan even in self protection had no stomach for killing a woman. Thus far he had neither shot at her nor made any effort to stab her. But when he saw her about to force an entrance he used the next most effective weapon to the seat—his boot. With a kick under the cheek he laid her unconscious in the road. There he left her to hurry on to the lumber camp.

Later when a party of lumbermen stopped where the affair had occurred they found the fallen robber still lying in the road.

"That's no woman," said one of the party, peering at the face upturned to the moonlight. "That's that Mexican gambler Yerex. He went broke yesterday and evidently tried to recoup by robbing the paymaster."

ANNA EDNA CARROLL.

Massachusetts Socialists Meet.

Boston, Sept. 29.—About 300 delegates of the Socialist party of America have assembled here to hold their state convention. The convention called specified that a full state ticket would be nominated. Representative James F. Carey of Haverhill, chairman of the Massachusetts Socialist state committee, called the convention to order with a speech in which he congratulated the delegates on the wonderful growth of the party. John C. Chase of Haverhill was nominated for governor.

No Change in Canal Situation.

Washington, Sept. 29.—The following bulletin has been posted at the state department: "The department of state has received a cable message from Minister Baugre, dated Sept. 27, 8 p. m. He reports that there has been no change in the situation in respect to the canal matter. A second debate on the bill reported by the committee is expected within a few days, and it is thought it may be defeated. The present outlook is for some amendment of the reported bill."

FATE OF VAN WORMERS

Mother of Condemned Boys Makes a Final Appeal.

O'DELL REFUSES TO SEE HER.

Details of Threefold Execution Practically Completed—Prisoners Hear Well the Terrible Order of Protracted Suspense.

Albany, N. Y., Sept. 29.—Mrs. Van Wormer, stepmother of the three brothers who are to be executed at Clinton on Thursday, called at the executive chamber to make a final appeal in behalf of her stepsons. Governor Odell declined to see her on the ground that he had fully considered the case and that an interview would be only a source of useless pain to both. Mrs. Van Wormer accepted his decision as final and returned to Kinderhook.

Warden George Deye of Clinton prison, who has the execution in personal charge, will not say, even if he has decided, in what order the brothers are to die, but he declares that there will be but one set of witnesses and the work will be done with all possible expedition. The witnesses have been instructed to meet at the warden's office at 11:15 a. m. The execution is to take place at or about noon and probably will not consume more than twenty minutes' time.

Much thought has been given to seeking a means of separating the three, so that none of them would know when either of his brothers was taken to the chair or whether he himself was first to go, but the arrangement of the prison and the location of the death house make this impossible, as to conduct the condemned men through any corridor of the main prison would undoubtedly throw the other prisoners into an uproar. It has been determined, therefore, to place the three in the successive three cells on one side of the corridor in the death house nearest the door of the execution room and remove them in that order to their death.

Condemned Bear Ordeal Well. The condemned prisoners bear well the ordeal of suspense. Willis, the oldest, bears up best and has been the monitor of the rest, counseling them how to prepare themselves for death. All three are under the advice and instruction of the prison priest. They have sent to their stepmother a letter declaring themselves resigned to their fate and urging her not to break down under the strain.

She will go to Dannemora for a last interview with her doomed stepsons, whom she has not seen since they were taken from the Hudson jail to the state prison. The expense of her journey will be borne by former Congressman Martin A. Glynn, editor of the Albany Times-Union.

Mrs. Van Wormer was accompanied to Albany by Mrs. Van Slyck of Kinderhook, an intimate friend, who was, in fact, her spokesman at the executive chamber. Mrs. Van Slyck said that Mrs. Van Wormer, distracted with grief, had indeed little hope that her appeal would move the governor, but could not permit herself to neglect any chance, however remote, of saving the lives of her foster sons. The autopsy, which will immediately follow the execution, will be performed by the prison physician, Dr. Ransome, assisted by Dr. Spitzka, the well known alienist and brain specialist.

Sad Accident at Wedding Feast.

Chicago, Sept. 29.—The wedding celebration of Joseph Gonzila and Mrs. Gonzila has terminated in an accident in which the bride and groom and six guests were injured. The friends of the Gonzilas had gathered on the little porch before the cottage to say farewell when the woodwork gave way, precipitating twenty persons to the ground, twelve feet below. Mrs. Mary Mann was found buried under a portion of the wreckage. Her unconscious child, bleeding from a wound in its head, was clapped to the mother's bosom. The woman and baby were the most severely injured.

Might Have Governed Philippines.

Chicago, Sept. 29.—Ex-Judge Herbert J. Davis has died at St. Luke's hospital, where he had been since Sept. 1. Mr. Davis was for several years a member of the law firm of Lowden, Davis & Estabrook. President McKinley tendered him the position of civil governor of the Philippines, but he declined and subsequently declined a seat on the Philippine bench, which was offered him by Judge Taft. He was forty-five years old.

Big Country Hotel Burned.

Middletown, N. Y., Sept. 29.—The Otis House at Wurtsboro, Sullivan county, one of the largest and oldest hotels in that county, has been destroyed by fire, together with adjoining buildings. Little of the contents of the hotel was saved. The horses and cattle were burned to death. The loss is heavy.

Rain Extinguishes Forest Fires.

Bangor, Me., Sept. 29.—Threatened damage from forest fires in the northeastern section of the state has been averted by a heavy fall of rain. Fires had started and were spreading rapidly, owing to the exceeding dryness of the timber land after weeks of drought, and a recurrence of the disastrous forest conflagrations of last June was feared by many woodmen and householders. Dispatches from various points in the threatened area indicate that the rain checked the flames, which soon died out as the storm continued.

ARMY MANEUVERS.

Soldiers at Camp Young Drilled in Advance and Rear Guard Tactics.

Camp Young, West Point, N. Y., Sept. 29.—The first real work of the troops assembled here for the army maneuvers centered on the solution of the various problems which confront the advance and rear guards of an army in the neighborhood of an enemy in time of war. The different phases of the problem, such as the protection by the advance guard of its own flank in a country offering good cover to an attacking force, the protection from a rush in the open by mounted infantry or cavalry and the fundamental requirements of discovery of the enemy within a time sufficient to allow the main body to be deployed in line of battle (usually at least one hour) were all allowed to develop in natural fashion without premeditation after the opposing forces had been set in motion.

The same relative problems were set before the rear guards of the blue and the brown armies. The main bodies did not clash. Their part in the problem was limited to forming line of battle and fixing the positions so that the time consumed and the disposition of the troops could be passed upon by the umpire in judging the work of the advance and rear guards in protecting them from surprise. While this was being done the advance guards were enjoying some lively skirmishing, the points chiefly noted by the umpire in this being skill in taking cover, surprise, superior weight of fire, accompanied by the least exposure of the body, taking the initiative, proper reserve of magazine fire, etc.

FIFTY THOUSAND REFUGEES.

Desperate Conditions in Mountains of Monastir.

Monastir, Macedonia, Sept. 24 (via Sofia, Bulgaria, Sept. 29).—It is estimated that 50,000 villagers of the vilayet of Monastir are now refugees in the mountains and mostly in a terribly destitute condition. These represent those who have succeeded in escaping from the 111 villages which have been wholly or partially burned by Turks, which contained 10,392 houses, of which 9,688 were burned. At Malkotirovo only a hundred Bulgarian families remain out of 1,300. A body of 200 families fleeing toward Bulgaria from villages in the Lozengrad district were surrounded by Turkish troops in the Urmundjak mountains, and all of them are alleged to have been slaughtered.

Incediarism at St. Louis.

St. Louis, Sept. 29.—It is believed that an attempt has been made to burn the agricultural building at the world's fair, one of the largest structures now in the course of erection there. One of the Jefferson guards observed a man acting suspiciously about the building. He attempted to arrest the man, who escaped, although several shots were fired at him. Guards thoroughly inspected the building and near one of the walls found straw and kindling saturated with oil. The would be incendiary is believed to be an Italian workman who was recently arrested and fined for trespassing on the world's fair grounds.

Fatal Storm in Boston.

Boston, Sept. 29.—One of the most severe electrical storms of the year prevailed in this section for several hours. One fatality and several minor casualties were reported. Michael J. Tully of Dedham was killed by a bolt of lightning which entered his home at 462 Washington street. William Haskell of Revere had the hair burned from his head by lightning that struck the chimney of his home and found its way to his bedroom. The Masonic building in East Boston was struck and several hundred dollars' damage done to the building.

Education in Porto Rico.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Sept. 29.—Twelve hundred schools in Porto Rico have been opened and 60,000 pupils received. Three times that number of children were enrolled, and the struggle for preference was very great. A severe electric storm has swept over Porto Rico. The lightning at Ponce caused considerable damage and so disarranged the lighting system that the city was plunged in darkness throughout the night. The rivers began to rise rapidly and caused considerable apprehension, but the waters are now subsiding.

Bad Fire in Chicago.

Chicago, Sept. 29.—The factory of the Standard Varnish company at Twenty-sixth street and Armour avenue has been nearly consumed by fire, entailing a loss estimated at \$200,000. The blaze was started by the explosion of a tank of oil varnish, which threw barrels of varnish through the roof. Two large tanks fell to the basement, and firemen were compelled to leap from the ladders to escape from the burning oil and varnish. None was reported to have been seriously injured.

Stricken in the Falpit.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 29.—Rev. Truman E. Allen, pastor of the Thirteenth Avenue Methodist church, was stricken with apoplexy just as he finished what he thought might be his last sermon to the congregation. In three hours he was dead. Mr. Allen was born in Vermont sixty-three years ago. He leaves a widow and a daughter.

Paper Mills Remain Idle.

Rumford, Pa., Sept. 29.—The mills of the International Paper company did not reopen, as expected, and the 700 hands remain idle. National labor workers were engaged the past week endeavoring to effect a settlement. The mill management refuses to concede to the request that only union men be employed.

ABSURD METHODS

said the Romoc man, expatiating on the means many people take to purify their blood. Don't you realize, he continues, that most so-called blood medicines are loaded with deadly poisons? By their use you simply force one poison out and take another just as bad or worse into your system. This is like the Indian whose blanket was too short to cover his feet, so he cut off six inches from the top and sewed it onto the bottom. You accomplish just as much good by the use of deadly mineral poisons as he did. It is different with Romoc. Romoc is Nature's remedy. There is no poison in it. Not a drop of alcohol is in this solution.



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We have investigated Romoc. We know that all that is said by the Romoc man pertaining to this wonderful remedy is true, and we will refund to anyone the price of the remedy not satisfied with the results obtained. Remember, Romoc is guaranteed and sold by

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VENEZUELAN ORAIME.

Belgian and French Arbitrators Complete Their Work.

New York, Sept. 29.—Dr. Filz, former president of the high court of the Dutch West Indies and representative of Belgium as an arbitrator of the claims against Venezuela, and Count Peretti de la Rocca, French representative in the Venezuelan arbitration court, arrived on the steamer Philadelphia from Curacao.

At the dock they would say nothing about the Venezuelan cases, but another member of the party said that the Belgian and French arbitrators had completed their labors, the English arbitrator expected to finish by the end of November, the German by the present date, the Dutch arbitrator a month later and the American by Dec. 1.

He added that everything was proceeding smoothly and the Venezuelan government was paying into the bank to meet demands 30 per cent of all customs duties received at Puerto Bello and La Guayra.

Dr. Filz and Count Peretti are en route to Europe.

Kingston Wins Baseball Pennant.

Kingston, N. Y., Sept. 29.—The season of the Hudson River baseball league has closed, Kingston won the pennant, her percentage being .677, with Hudson second with a percentage of .564. The other teams were Peekskill, Saugerties, Poughkeepsie, Newburgh and Catskill.

Great Bean Crop in California.

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 29.—The first rain of the season is falling here. A storm at this time will result in serious damage to the bean crop. It is estimated that more than 100,000 sacks will be harvested in the Santa Monica district alone.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Closing Quotations of the New York Stock Exchange.

New York, Sept. 29.
Money on call firmer at 3 per cent.
Prime mercantile paper, 6 1/2% per cent.
Exchange, \$123,539,739; balances, \$5,001,455.
Closing prices:
Amalg. Copper, 37 1/2; N. Y. Central, 115 1/2; Atchafalpa, 69 1/2; Norf. & West., 50 1/2; B. & O., 73 1/2; Penn. R. R., 112 1/2; Brooklyn R. T., 20 1/2; Reading, 44 1/2; C. & D. St. L., 69 1/2; Rock Island, 27 1/2; Ches. & Ohio, 25; St. Paul, 110 1/2; Chi. & Northw., 164; Southern Pac., 39 1/2; D. & H., 149; Southern Ry., 17 1/2; Erie, 100 1/2; South. Ry. pf., 78 1/2; Gen. Elect., 128; Sugar, 49 1/2; Illinois Cen., 129 1/2; Texas Pacific, 23 1/2; Louis. & Nash., 35 1/2; Union Pacific, 67 1/2; Manhattan, 127; U. S. Steel, 15 1/2; Metropolitan, 100 1/2; U. S. Steel pf., 32 1/2; Mo. Pac., 69 1/2; West. Union, 39 1/2.

General Markets.

New York, Sept. 29.
FLOUR—Quiet and barely steady; Minnesota patent, \$4.70; winter straight, \$3.75; winter extras, \$3.60; winter patents, \$3.60.
WHEAT—Weak and heavy under liquidation, induced by big Russian shipments, lower cables and a break in corn; December, \$1.43 1/2; May, \$1.45 1/2; C. & D. St. L., 69 1/2; Rock Island, 27 1/2; Ches. & Ohio, 25; St. Paul, 110 1/2; Chi. & Northw., 164; Southern Pac., 39 1/2; D. & H., 149; Southern Ry., 17 1/2; Erie, 100 1/2; South. Ry. pf., 78 1/2; Gen. Elect., 128; Sugar, 49 1/2; Illinois Cen., 129 1/2; Texas Pacific, 23 1/2; Louis. & Nash., 35 1/2; Union Pacific, 67 1/2; Manhattan, 127; U. S. Steel, 15 1/2; Metropolitan, 100 1/2; U. S. Steel pf., 32 1/2; Mo. Pac., 69 1/2; West. Union, 39 1/2.

CORN—Sustained a severe decline as an outcome of liberal world's shipments, a fine weather map and easier cables; December, \$1.43 1/2; May, \$1.45 1/2.

COATS—Nominal; track, white, state, 42c; 46c; track, white, western, 42c.

PORK—Easy; mess, \$14.75; family, \$15.

LARD—Steady; prime western steam, \$8.50; extra creamery, \$11.50.

BUTTER—Steady; state dairy, 15c; extra creamery, 21c.

CHEESE—Strong; state, full cream, fancy, small, colored, 17c; small, white, 15c; large, colored, 12c; large, white, 10c.

EGGS—Strong; state and Pennsylvania fancy mixed, 24c; state and Pennsylvania seconds to extras, 22c; western extras, 24c.

STARCH—Raw firm; fair refining, 24c; centrifugal, 24 test, 23 1/2c; refined firm; crushed, 15c; powdered, 10c.

TURPENTINE—Quiet at 54c.

MOLASSES—Firm; New Orleans, 11c; RICE—Firm; domestic, 11c; Japan, 10c.

TALLOW—Dull; city, 4c; country, 4 1/2c.

HAY—Easy; shipping, 60c; good to choice, 55c.

STOCKS TAKE BIG DROP

Heavy Selling and Declines Throughout the List.

STEEL COMMON FALLS TO 15

Preferred Goes to 29 3/4—Northern Securities and Many Railroad Shares Badly Affected by London Quotations.

New York, Sept. 29.—The stock market opened with great demoralization, following sharp declines in the London market, where British consols touched 88, a new low record for a generation, amid heavy liquidation by speculative interests at that center. Heavy blocks of stocks came out at the start in the local market, 4,000 shares of United States Steel preferred being thrown over at 60 1/2 to 61. Steel common opened at 15 1/2, while the bonds were also considerably lower. Under pressure of the steel group which carried them down to new low records everything on the list melted away, bottom figures for the year being reached in many stocks.

There was little news outside of the labor situation to cause the weakness in the stock market, but the fact was recognized that the same causes were in operation which have prevailed for some time past—namely, the forced liquidation by formerly wealthy men who had engaged in promoting and syndicate schemes on too large a scale and who, because they were using borrowed capital, were compelled by the money lenders to lighten their ballast.

Well Known Men in Trouble.

Names of well known individuals were freely mentioned in Wall street as among the chief sellers of the Steel issues, Baltimore and Ohio, Pennsylvania, Metropolitan Street Railway, Brooklyn Rapid Transit, Norfolk and Western, the coalers and grangers, which showed the greatest weakness.

Some of the low prices reached, many of which are low records, were the following: United States Steel common, 15; United States Steel preferred, 60 1/2; Baltimore and Ohio, 72 1/2; Pennsylvania, 118; Union Pacific, 67 1/2; St. Paul, 125 1/2; Metropolitan Street Railway, 100; Brooklyn Rapid Transit, 30 1/2; Missouri Pacific, 86; Norfolk and Western, 53 1/2; Reading common, 43 1/2; Atchafalpa common, 69 1/2; Sugar Refining, 108 1/2. Among the sharpest losses were 4 1/2 points in Metropolitan, 1 1/2 in Union Pacific, 2 in St. Paul, 2 1/2 in Sugar, 1 1/2 in Baltimore and Ohio and 1 1/2 in Steel preferred. Some of the specialties showed even greater losses. On the curb Northern Securities declined to 83 1/2, the lowest on record.

Later there was a slight reaction, but a drop in Amalgamated to 37 1/2 caused renewed selling of all the active stocks, and prices in many instances sold lower than in the morning. Pressure was particularly heavy against Baltimore and Ohio, Brooklyn Rapid Transit and the Pacific General Electric lost 9 points and Westinghouse Electric 13.

Jumped to Escape from Fire.

Cincinnati, O., Sept. 29.—Five persons were injured, and critically, by jumping from windows to escape from fire in a building on East Ninth street. The building was occupied by the rear by the J. H. Lewis Carriage company, and the front was used as an apartment house. The fire started in the second story of the factory, four of the injured were unharmed; the flames in the fourth story and spread from the windows.